

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-05 AGR-10

FEA-01 INT-05 SAJ-01 DLOS-04 OFA-01 ACDA-10 /156 W

----- 054515

R 012115Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8133

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PORT OF SPAIN 1933

CARACAS ALSO FOR DAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEWT, ETRD, PLOS, TD, CU, UR, UN, NL, AU, RO,

XL, UK

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RETURNS FROM SEVEN NATION

MISSION

REF: A) POS 1454; B) POS 1885; C) POS 1895; D) POS 1901;

E) POS 1916; (ALL NOTAL)

1. PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS RETURNED TO TRINIDAD

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JULY 22 FROM A SEVEN-NATION FOREIGN TRIP DURING WHICH HE

MADE STOPS IN CUBA, THE U.S., U.K., USSR, ROMANIA, AUSTRIA AND THE NETHERLANDS. THE TRIP WAS THE PRIME MINISTER'S FOURTH MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRIP WITHIN THE PAST YEAR AND, LIKE HIS FIRST TRIP TO CHINA AND THE FAR EAST, BROKE NEW DIPLOMATIC GROUND. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE CASTRO CAME TO POWER, THE PRIME MINISTER OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO VISITED CUBA. THE VISITS TO THE SOVIET UNION AND ROMANIA WERE ALSO FIRSTS FOR A TRINIDAD PM AND REPRESENTED AN EXPANSION OF TRINIDAD'S FOREIGN POLICY HORIZONS. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT DR. WILLIAMS MADE TO PARLIAMENT ON HIS RETURN, THE MAJOR PURPOSES OF THE MISSION WERE TO SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR THE PM'S PROPOSAL FOR A SPECIAL LAW OF THE SEA REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN, TO EXAMINE POSSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND TO FACILITATE THE FLOW OF TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERTISE TO TRINIDAD.

2. DURING THE VISIT TO CUBA JUNE 18-22, DR. WILLIAMS EXHIBITED A MUCH GREATER DEGREE OF CAUTION THAN OTHER COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN LEADERS HAVE SHOWN IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES. AS AN EARLY AND STRONG ADVOCATE OF THE REINTEGRATION OF CUBA INTO THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM, DR. WILLIAMS RECEIVED A WARM WELCOME FROM PRIME MINISTER CASTRO AND A GREAT DEAL OF HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION DURING HIS STAY. HE AND HIS PARTY, HOWEVER, STAYED CAREFULLY AWAY FROM IDEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS AND FROM ANY ENDORSEMENT OF THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM IN CUBA AS A MODEL FOR TRINIDAD OR OTHER CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. THE PM AND REST OF HIS PARTY WERE, NEVERTHELESS, VERY COMPLIMENTARY AND ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SUCH ASPECTS OF CUBAN LIFE AS HEALTH AND EDUCATION.

3. ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED, CUBA AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO DID AGREE TO A PROGRAM FOR THE CARIBBEAN COMMITTEE OF ECLA (REF B) AND TO COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES IN SEVERAL AREAS. BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE TO EXAMINE WAYS AND MEANS TO INCREASE EXCHANGES IN THE FIELDS OF INDUSTRIAL COMPLEMENTATION, SUGAR TECHNOLOGY, AND FOOD PRODUCTION, AND TO ESTABLISH COOPERATION BETWEEN CUBAN AND TRINIDADIAN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN THE AREA OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY. AT THE INVITATION OF TRINIDAD, CUBA AGREED TO SEND A TRADE MISSION TO PORT OF SPAIN TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR EXPANDING BILATERAL TRADE, WHICH NOW IS VERY SMALL. TRINIDAD ALSO INDICATED THAT IT WAS INTERESTED IN STUDYING CUBA'S

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EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS IN GREATER DETAIL TO DETERMINE IF THEY OFFERED USEFUL EXAMPLES WHICH TRINIDAD MIGHT EMULATE.

4. IN ADDITION TO HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN WASHINGTON, DR. WILLIAMS ALSO ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE UN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL IN NEW YORK AND MET WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM, ECLA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, AND UN

OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH LOS AFFAIRS DURING HIS UNITED STATES VISIT JUNE 22-27. THE PM PROPOSED A SERIES OF MEETINGS OF THE ECLA CARIBBEAN COMMITTEE INCLUDING A MEETING TO SET UP THE COMMITTEE IN HAVANA SEPTEMBER 1-4, A MEETING OF TECHNICAL LOS EXPERTS IN PORT OF SPAIN OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 1, A MEETING OF UN UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS WITH THE RECTORS OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITIES IN PORT OF SPAIN DECEMBER 8 - 13, AND A MEETING IN SANTO DOMINGO WHICH WILL INCLUDE OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN ON THE LAW OF THE SEA REGIME AT A DATE TO BE FIXED LATER.

5. AS REPORTED IN REFS "C" AND "D", DR. WILLIAMS AND THE TRINIDAD DELEGATION WERE DISAPPOINTED BY THE UNENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE THEY RECEIVED IN THE SOVIET UNION JUNE 30 - JULY 7, AND BY THEIR FAILURE TO REACH ANY DEFINITE AGREEMENTS THERE. THE PARTY WAS MORE SUCCESSFUL IN THEIR OTHER EAST EUROPEAN STOP, BUCHAREST, JULY 7, - 12. HAVING MORE IN COMMON IN SIZE, PETROLEUM RESOURCES, AND INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION WITH ROMANIA, THE TRINIDADIAN PARTY HELD DISCUSSIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, HEAVY INDUSTRY MANUFACTURE, TRAINING IN PETROLEUM RELATED AREAS, AND ON THE NEGOTIATION OF A LONG-TERM COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT.

6. A MAJOR PURPOSE OF THE PM'S VISIT TO ROMANIA WAS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINT VENTURE INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. BEFORE THEY LEFT, THE TRINIDADIAN HAD SIGNED THREE AGREEMENTS AND AGREED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON A FOURTH (TRADE) BY EARLY AUGUST (REF. E). THE BASIC GHRUST OF ALL OF THE AGREEMENTS IS THE TRANSFER OR SALE OF ROMANIAN TECHNOLOGY (ESPECIALLY OIL-RELATED) AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS TO TRINIDAD. ASIDE FROM THE USUAL THIRD WORLD SOCIALIST RHETORIC ON IMPERIALISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE VISIT DEALT EXTENSIVELY WITH THE RIGHTS OF MIDDLE-SIZED AND SMALL COUNTRIES AND THE DESIRE TO HAVE THESE RIGHTS AND INTERESTES RESPECTED. THE FIRST STEPS IN THIS DIRECTION WERE TAKEN IN THE "LONG-TERM AGREEMENT (AND PROTOCOL) ON ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION" WHICH PROVIDES FRAMEWORK AND BASIC CONDITIONS FOR SUCH VENTURES.

7. IN HIS STOP IN AUSTRIA JULY 16-17, DR. WILLIAMS DISCUSSED THE LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TOPICS WITH CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY AND FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA. HE AND THE REST OF THE DELEGATION THEN DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC SUBJECTS WITH THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL ECONOMIC CHAMBER AND TOURED THE IRON AND STEEL WORKD AT LINZ. DR. WILLIAMS FOUND SOLACE IN THE EXPERIENCE OF AUSTRIA IN SUCCESSFULLY OPERATING PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS WHICH

ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE SMALLER THAN THE MINIMUM
ECONOMIC SIZE.

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8. DR. WILLIAMS DISCUSSED HIS PROPOSALS FOR A SPECIAL LOS
REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN WITH THE DUTCH PRIME MINISTER AND
FOREIGN MINISTER AND WITH THE MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY FOR
THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES DURING HIS VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS
JULY 13-16. THE TRINIDADIAN PARTY THEN VISITED (MAJOR REASON
FOR THE STOP IN THE NETHERLANDS), THE ESTEL HOOGOVENS
PLANT AT IJMUIDEN TO MEET WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE

DUTCH-GERMAN COMPANY WHICH IS A PARTNER WITH THE GOTT IN THE PALNNED IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX IN TRINIDAD.

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9. DURING HIS FINAL STOP IN THE U.K. JULY 17-22, DR. WILLIAMS HELD A TOUR D'HORIZON ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMMONWEALTH TOPICS WITH PRIME MINISTER WILSON AND FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN. HE ALSO DISCUSSED HIS CARIBBEAN LOS PROPOSALS AND OBTAINED PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S AGREEMENT TO "WORK CLOSELY" ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS IN PORT OF SPAIN.

10. IN HIS JULY 25 REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON THE TRIP, DR. WILLIAMS SAID THAT HIS LATEST MISSION, AS WELL AS THE THREE WHICH PRECEDED IT IN THE LAST YEAR, REFLECTED THE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE. THESE MAJOR CHANGES INCLUDED DETENTE, THE SUCCESS OF DECOLONIZATION, AND THE SHIFT IN THE BALANCE OF ECONOMIC POWER DUE TO THE ASCENDENCY OF THE RAW-MATERIAL PRODUCING COUNTRIES. IN THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, HE SAID THERE HAS ALSO BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE PERSONAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN HEADS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS.

11. THE PM SAID THAT HE HAD FOUND THAT THE LARGER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE A MONOPOLY ON MODERN TECHNOLOGY OR SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE. HE ALSO WAS ADVISED BY SOME SMALLER COUNTRIES THAT THE LARGE INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS PLANNED BY TRINIDAD WHICH WERE SUPPOED BY SOME TO BE TOO SMALL TO BE ECONOMICALLY VIABLE, WERE IN FACT POSSIBLE AND HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED IN THESE COUNTRIES. HE ALSO FOUND INSPIRATION FOR THE JOINT ECONOMIC PROJECTS OF THE CARIBBEAN IN THE VENTURES UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY BY OTHER SMALL COUNTRIES. ANOTHER PROGRAM WHICH THE PM BELIEVED HAD SOME APPLICABILITY IN THE CARIBBEAN WAS THE NATIONAL COORDINATION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS IN PURSUIT OF NATIONAL GOALS THROUGH A CENTRAL ORGANIZATION, EXAMPLES OF WHICH HE NOTED IN ROMANIA AND AUSTRIA.

12. THE RESULTS OF THE MSSION, HE SAID, CONFIRMED THE VALIDITY OF THE EXERCISE PRESENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE CABINET TO REAPPRAISE TRINIDAD'S FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES, PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS. HE WAS REFERRING TO THE CABINET'S STUDY OF THE LOCATION AND STAFFING OF ALL OF TRINIDAD'S OVERSEAS ESTABLISHMENTS IN ORDER TO BRING THESE INTO HARMONY WITH THE COUNTRY'S PRIMARY GOAL OF PROMOTING ITS OWN DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. ASIDE FROM THE GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY

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OBJECTIVES OF THE TRIP TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND OPEN NEW CHANNELS
OF DISCUSSION, ONE SPECIFIC STATED GOAL WAS TO CREATE AN
ATMOSPHERE FAVORABLE TO THE FLOW OF TECHNOLOGY TO TRINIDAD,
EITHER THROUGH GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS OR THROUGH
JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS WITH PRIVATE FOREIGN CORPOERATIONS.
IN THIS REGARD DR. WILLIAMS CAN BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE MADE A
MODEST BEGINNING WITH CUBA, ROMANIA, AND AUSTRIA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL REPORTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTO01933
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750267-0848
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750890/aaaadbov.tel
Line Count: 287
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PORT OF SPAIN 1454, 75 PORT OF SPAIN 1885, 75 PORT OF SPAIN 1895, 75 PORT OF SPAIN 1901
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <09 MAR 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RETURNS FROM SEVEN NATION MISSION
TAGS: PFOR, EEWT, ETRD, PLOS, TD, CU, UR, NL, AU, RO, UN, (WILLIAMS, ERIC)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006